

POETS CORNER

THE STORY OF A FRENCH CONSCRIPT

In Graham's British Georgics their is the following description of a French Conscript, a basket maker by trade, who had been made captive by the British arms, and was held a prisoner a long time in Scotland. The young men of our country, who have been threatened with a similar conscription, will read it with interest.

"Once I beheld a captive, whom the wars

Had made an inmate of the prison-house,

Cheering with wicker-work (that almost seemed

To him a sort of play) his dreary hours.

I asked his story, in my native tongue;

(Long use had made it easy as his own)

He answered thus—Before these wars began,

I dwelt upon the willow banks of Loire:

I married one who, from my boyish days,

Had been my playmate. One morn—

—I'll ne'er forget!

While busy choosing out the prettiest twigs,

To warp a cradle for our child unborn,

We heard the tidings that a Conscript

Had fallen on me; it came like a death-knell.

The mother perished, but the babe survived;

And, ere my parting day, his rocking couch

I made complete, and saw him sleeping smile;

The smile that played upon the cheek of her

Who lay clay cold. Alas! the hour soon came

That forced my fettered arms to quit my child;

And whether now he lives to deck with flowers

The sod upon his mother's grave, or lies

Beneath it by her side, I ne'er could learn;

I think he's gone; and now I only wish

For liberty and home, that I may see,

And stretch myself and die upon that grave."

General Jackson.

Some notice of the life and character of Gen. Jackson will be desirable at this time to the readers of your columns.—The distinguished post he at present occupies, the honourable manner in which he has brought the Creek war to a termination, the unexampled enthusiasm which he has instilled into his army in defence of the nation—and confidence which he every where obtained through this vast country, has excited much curiosity, on the part of the public, to become more intimately acquainted with him. The writer of the Crisis will gratify as far as in his power, this anxiety for information concerning a man whose life will constitute, and has constituted already an important epoch in the history of our country. Gen. Andrew Jackson was, as I am told, born in N. Carolina where he received a liberal education, and at an early age commenced the practice of the law. He was esteemed eminent in his profession—His speeches at the bar were always considered nervous and admired for the perspicuity of the style; he was pointed out to the, in Knoxville, as an elegant scholar. In early life he was poor, his industry soon made him rich; generous and brave in his disposition, he was esteemed by all who knew him—and his influence soon became extensive; he was elected a member of the Tennessee Convention, and had a large share in the formation of the constitution of the state. On the admission of Tennessee into the union as a sister state, he was elected to the House of Representatives, from which he was subsequently transferred by the Tennessee Legislature to the Senate of the U. S. This last station he occupied until he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Law and Equity of Tennessee, which last named office he held for several years. On giving up this appointment, which he filled with honour to himself and advantage to his country—he turned his attention to the military art and soon rose to the rank of Major General of militia. In the capacity of an officer at the head of an army, comment is unnecessary; he has appeared and yet appeared covered with glory; the laurels with which he has decked his country's standard will bloom for ages. His person remains to be noticed. He is tall, thin, and spare, but muscular and hardy, with an eye quick, & penetrating—I have frequently seen General Jackson, and such was the impression his appearance made in my mind,

that I have said to myself he is a man of iron.—Adversity can make no impression on a bosom braced by such decision and firmness as is visible in his face and his manner—quite the contrary.—It is true he sports not with the feelings of others, and no one is permitted to wound him with impunity; but then he is gay, communicative and liberal, and the more you get acquainted with him, the more you admire and indeed love him. To be a patriot, a soldier and a gentleman, is sufficient to secure the inviolable friendship of this highly distinguished citizen.

To the poor he is liberal, to the unfortunate charitable, to the humblest private he is mild and tender, to the base and disaffected to his country stern and unbending, and yet just. He is now about fifty-five, but he has a juvenility of appearance that would make him ten years younger. The General is married, but has no children. If in the field and at the head of armies in battle, we admire the dauntless soldier; we love the man who at home, and in retirement, is hospitable and friendly, and in this particular the General is pre-eminently conspicuous.

Author of the Crisis.

General Coffee is a native of New-toway county, Virginia.

Richmond Enquirer.

THE DIVINING ROD.

The art of the divining rod or magic wand, has been in practice for several centuries. It had its origin in Germany, but by whom is uncertain. It was used at first in Europe for the purpose of finding metals and minerals, and afterwards in France was even employed by impostors for the discovery of stolen property, and to identify characters guilty of crimes. Until within these few years, it was always considered as an art similar to that of animal magnetism, founded on error and deception—but from a series of experiments which have been made and repeated by some of the first experimental philosophers, in France, the art of the divining rod now begins to assume a scientific form, and the laws by which it is directed are ascertained with nearly the same accuracy as those of electricity and galvanism. The uses to which it may be applied, are perhaps even more extensive than those of the two other sciences, and in this country particularly, it is capable of being rendered extremely advantageous.

The following are the results of experiments which have been made: 1st. A single twig of any tree, whatever, when newly cut, will diverge a certain number of minutes or degrees from its proper position when brought directly over or in the immediate vicinity of any conducting substance, such as metals or water. But the best conductors for electricity and galvanism, are not the best for the divining rod. Water is found to be more powerful than any of the metals & salt water still more powerful than fresh. The degree of attraction also depends considerably upon the substance interposed between the conductor and the divining rod.

2d. Although a twig from any tree will prove the experiment; yet some trees are found to answer much better than others: the hazel, the peach and the cherry, are said to be superior in this respect. A forked twig will also diverge more powerfully than a single twig.

3d. If the twig be suspended by an electric, or an immediate contact with an electric, no divergency will take place.

4th. The angle of divergency depends in a great measure upon the nature of the conductor which is used. The human body is found to produce a greater degree of divergency than any other substance, and the bodies of some individuals, produce the effect in a most surprising degree, while in other individuals the action is scarcely perceptible. The effect is also found to vary with the state of the system. What appears most surprising is, that in the same individual the greater the state of debility, the greater the effect produced. If the skin of the human body be moistened, particularly those parts in immediate contact with the divining rod, the effect is much increased. Salt water or a weak solution of the muriatic acid, has been found to be the best fluid for this purpose.

5th. The most effectual mode of using the divining rod, is as follows:

The operator to be bare footed in making the experiment, and to

have the soles of his feet and his hands well moistened with salt water, or such a solution of the muriatic acid, as will not prove disagreeable. The divining rod to be a forked twig of peach cherry or hazel tree. He holds the extremity of each fork by one hand, in such a manner that the twig may rest in a direction nearly perpendicular to the horizon, having the cut extremity upwards. The operator holding the twig carefully in this position, walks slowly forwards, and so soon as he approaches any subterraneous water or metal, not more than twenty feet below the surface of the earth the twig begins to turn or bend forward. If the metal or water be but a few feet below the surface of the earth, the twig turns entirely over, with the cut extremity pointing towards the earth.

The same effect will take place with many individuals without being barefooted, or without having their skins moistened; but if the above precautions be taken, the experiment will succeed with every person.

6. If the operator in making the experiment has silk stockings or uses silk gloves, no effect will be produced.

The divining rod has been practiced in the western country for many years with the greatest success in the finding of water, and there are several gentlemen of the first respectability in Kentucky, & whose veracity is unquestionable, with whom the experiment invariably succeeds. There are also two gentlemen in Richmond, who are well known would never attempt to impose upon the public equally dexterous in the use of it. These are the Rev. John D. Blair and Mr. Jno. Foster. The latter I have seen myself make the experiment.

The European theory to explain the phenomena of the divining rod is briefly this. The conductor, whether water or metal, is supposed to form with the superincumbent earth and the fluids of the human body a galvanic circle, and the more perfect this circle is, so much the more powerful will be the action of the divining rod.

Thus what was regarded only a few years ago as a deception practiced by impostors and the credulous, is now cultivated, improved and made the study of men of science.

Petersburg Courier.

LOTTERY PUFFS.

A friend having taken the trouble impartially to analyze the particles composing one of these public nuisances, finds the following to be the result of his labours; he has added some that ought to compose the writing of every man of sense.

Folly	50
Falsehood	13 1-2
Truth	00
Deceit	13 1-2
Wit	00
Sense	00
Benefit	01
Injury	09
Respectability	00
Prose	01
Verse	01
Profit	00
Learning	10
Ignorance	100

U. S. Gazette.

Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias issued out of Anne Arundel county court, (returnable to April term) and to me directed, will be exposed to Public Sale, on Monday the 27th inst. at 10 o'clock, A. M. at the city tavern, (for cash) a variety of household and kitchen furniture, consisting of beds, chairs, tables, carpets and carpeting; pots, kettles, and other valuable articles too tedious to enumerate. Also six young and healthy negroes, and a stag and two horses. The above is taken as the property of Isaac Parker, and will be sold to satisfy a debt due William Brewer.

Solomon Groves, Sheriff of the County, Annapolis, Feb. 16, 1815.

Public Sale.

By virtue of an order from the orphans court of Anne Arundel county will be exposed to Public Sale, on Friday the 24th inst. at the late dwelling of the deceased; The personal property of Thomas Stinchcomb, late of Anne Arundel county, deceased, consisting of negroes, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, household furniture, plantation utensils, &c. Terms of sale.—For all sums over ten dollars, a credit of six months will be given, the purchaser giving bond with good security, with interest from the day of sale; for all sums under ten dollars, the cash to be paid.

William Stinchcomb, Adm. Feb. 16.

50 Dollars Reward.

Ran away from the subscriber on the 2d of October, 1814, a negro man named DICK: he is short, yellowish-complected fellow, about 35 years of age, 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, and very polite when spoken to. He went with him a pair of cotton country cloth trousers, with a broad blue stripe, & a round white country cloth jacket and waistcoat. He is a rough shoemaker and took away with him his tools. Whoever brings home the said negro or secures him so that I get him again, shall receive the above reward with all reasonable charges.

Benjamin Harwood, of Rd. A. County, South River Neck, near Annapolis.

N. B. It is supposed the above negro man may have gone to Montgomery county, where his mother lives with a Mrs Murray, near Montgomery Court House, and may have a pass. B. H. December 1.

Land for Sale.

By virtue of a decree of the state of Maryland's high court of chancery, on Friday the 24th day of February next, at 12 o'clock, and on the premises, if fair, if not the first fair day thereafter, the subscriber will expose to sale to the highest bidder,

All the Real Estate

of Nathan Hughes, late of Anne Arundel county, deceased, consisting of a tract or part of a tract or parcel of land lying in the said county, called and known by the name of "Cains," and containing 118½ acres. The improvements on this land are a good comfortable dwelling house, and several out houses; and the land itself well adapted to the growth of tobacco, corn, and all kinds of small grain. It is well watered and timbered and lies within three miles of Pig Point.

The terms of sale are, that the purchaser or purchasers shall give bond, with good security, to the subscriber, for the payment of the purchase money with interest, within twelve months from the day of sale, and on the ratification of the sale by the chancellor, and on the payment of the whole purchase money, (and not before) the subscriber is authorised to convey the land to the purchaser, and his heirs, free, clear and discharged from all claim of the heirs at law, of the said Nathan Hughes, or those claiming by, from, or under them.

Leonard Gary, Trustee.

N. B. The creditors of the said Nathan Hughes, deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit their claims with the vouchers thereof, to the register of the chancery court, within six months from the day of sale.

By order of the court, L. Gary, Trustee. Feb. 9, 1815. Sw.

Will be Sold,

On Friday the 3d March next, part of the personal estate of Mrs. Mary Watson, deceased, at her late residence, consisting of stock of all kinds, household and kitchen furniture, plantation utensils, &c. Terms will be made known on the day of sale.

Charles Watson, Executor. Feb. 16. Sw.

NOTICE.

This is to give notice, that the subscribers have obtained from the orphans court of Anne Arundel county, letters testamentary on the personal estate of Stephen Beard, sen. late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said deceased, are requested to bring them in legally authenticated, and all those indebted are requested to make immediate payment.

Stephen Beard, John Beard, Exrs. Feb. 9, 1815. Sw.

This is to give notice,

That the subscriber has obtained from the orphans court of Anne Arundel county, letters of administration on the personal estate of William Tucker, late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are requested to bring them in, legally authenticated, and those indebted are requested to make immediate payment.

Abel Tucker, Adm. Feb. 16. Sw.

Notice is hereby given,

THAT I shall apply to the next April court of Prince George's County, for the benefit of the insolvent law, to release me from debts which I am unable to pay.

Jeremiah Brashers. Jan. 7, 1815. Sw.

NOTICE.

The subscriber having obtained from the orphans court of Anne Arundel county, letters of administration D. B. N. on the personal estate of Samuel Green, late of Anne Arundel county, deceased, all persons having claims against said deceased are hereby requested to bring them in, legally proved, and those who are indebted to the same to make immediate payment, more especially those who are indebted for postage on letters, &c.

Richard H. Harwood, Adm. D. B. N. Feb. 25.

BIOGRAPHY OF ANOTHER AMERICAN HERO

"Immortal may their memory be—Who fought and bled for liberty." Letter from Colonel Howard, of more, one of the heroes in the battle at the Cowpens. SIR—It gives me pleasure to publish the life of another hero of the revolution, I mean

Gen. Francis Marion

of South Carolina. I entirely agree with General Green, Lee, and other great judges, that he was an uncommon merit, and one who rendered great services to this country during the revolutionary war. One trait in his character, especially deserves immortal credit; he was not ambitious of command; and when the good of his country required it, he would act in any station. In the battles of Soc's Lake, Moll's Fort and Friday's Ferry, he acted as colonel Lee; and although he was not entitled to the command, yet, from patriotic motives, he permitted Lee to take a great measure, to direct the operations.

Wishing that you may so succeed in delineating the character of Gen. Marion, as to rouse our youth to the imitation of his valor and his virtues, I remain, sir, your obedient servant, JOHN E. HOWARD, The Rev. M. L. Weems.

Belvidere, Nov. 23.

How well he deserved such praise will appear by considering the singularly gloomy situation of our country when Marion commenced his military career. When one of our finest armies under Gen. Lincoln was captured at Charleston, and another under Gen. Gates was cut to pieces at Camden, when a whole division under General Sumpter was completely surprised, and that under Beaufort entirely massacred; when such a run of horrible blunders and disasters, the last spark of liberty seemed to be extinguished in the Southern States, and multitudes of frightened citizens thought of nothing but getting British protections—then it was, that that dark and hopeless state of affairs, that Marion came forth, instead of floating with the cowardly down the stream of despair, he rose upon the wings of genius and virtue against the cloud of war, and like the eagle of Heaven, seemed to rejoice in the darkening storm. 'Tis known to many of his countrymen in Congress that at this awful crisis he had but thirty men! with only two rounds of powder and ball! and thirty swords! As yet, with this slender stake he played the game of war with such astonishing skill, that in five weeks he gave the enemy as many signal overthrows!—horses were captured—troops dispersed—whigs, reanimated crowds flocked to the standard, and battles were fought on a larger scale, and with a success which ultimately accomplished his great wish the liberty and glory of his country.

In short, it is hoped that the reader will find in the Life of Marion, a rich storehouse of that moral and military heroism which, while it charms the hearts, has an admirable tendency to multiply in our land, virtuous and patriotic officers!

This interesting work, in one volume of near 300 pages, neatly printed in bound, and to be delivered to subscribers for one dollar. M. L. Weems, author of the "Life of Washington" is now receiving subscriptions for the "Life of Marion." There is no reading so proper for American youth, as the biography of American worthies.—Geo. Washington. Jan. 25.

A Wood Cutter wanted

The subscriber wants to hire, for the present year, a Negro Man who is good hand at cutting wood. For an good hand liberal wages will be given. Jan. 12, 1815. T. H. Bowie.

Notice is Hereby Given

That the Levy Court of Anne Arundel county will meet at the city of Annapolis on the third Monday in March next, for the purpose of settling and adjusting all claims against the county for the year 1814, and also settling and adjusting the accounts of the supervisors of the public road, and the inspectors of tobacco, and respective warehouses in the said county.

By Order, Wm. S. Green, Clerk. February 16.

A LIST OF THE

American NAVY,

STEEL'S LIST OF THE

British NAVY.

For Sale at GEORGE SNAW'S Store and at this Office.—Price 12 1-2 Cents.

Blank Bonds, Declared

void on Bond, Appeal Bonds, &c. mon Warrants. For sale at the Store.